

CHAPTER X.X.X.

INFECTION WITH *MARTEILIA REFRINGENS*

Article X.X.X.1.

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, infection with *Marteilia refringens* means infection only with *Marteilia refringens*.

Methods for surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification are provided in the *Aquatic Manual*.

Article X.X.X.2.

Susceptible species

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, susceptible species for infection with *Marteilia refringens* are: *Ostrea* species, in particular the European Flat Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Australian Mud Oyster (*Ostrea angasi*), Argentinean Oyster (*Ostrea puelchana*) and Chilean Flat Oyster (*Ostrea chilensis*), Blue Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) and Mediterranean Mussel (*M. galloprovincialis*).

~~Infection with *Marteilia refringens* can also cause subclinical infection in these species.~~

Suspect cases, as defined in the *Aquatic Manual*, of infection with *Marteilia refringens* in species other than those listed in this Article should be referred immediately to the appropriate OIE Reference Laboratory, whether or not clinical signs are associated with the findings.

Article X.X.X.3.

Commodities

- 1) When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities*, *Competent Authorities* should not require any *Marteilia refringens* related conditions, regardless of the *Marteilia refringens* status of the exporting country, *zone* or *compartment*:

[under study]

a) gametes, eggs and larvae of molluscs;

b) processed non-viable molluscs (cooked, canned, smoked);

e) fresh non-viable half-shell oysters;

- 2) When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities* of a species listed in Article X.X.X.2., *Competent Authorities* should require the conditions prescribed in Articles X.X.X.7. to X.X.X.11. of this Chapter, relevant to the *Marteilia refringens* status of the *exporting country, zone or compartment*:
 - a) *aquatic animals*;
 - b) *aquatic animal products*.
- 3) When considering the import or transit of a *commodity* not listed above from an *exporting country, zone or compartment* not declared free of *Marteilia refringens*, *Competent Authorities* of the *importing country* should conduct an analysis of the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of *Marteilia refringens*, and the potential consequences, associated with importation of the *commodity*, prior to a decision. The outcome of this assessment should be made available to the *exporting country*.

Article X.X.X.4.

***Marteilia refringens* free country**

A country may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* if it meets the conditions in point 1) or 2) or 3) or 4) below.

If a country shares a water catchment or coastal zone ~~water resource~~ with one or more other countries, it can only declare itself a *Marteilia refringens* free country if all the areas covered by the shared water ~~resource~~ are declared *Marteilia refringens* free zones (see Article X.X.X.5.).

- 1) A country where none of the species listed in Article X.X.X.2. is present may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place met continuously in the country for at least the past 3 years¹ ~~and infection is not known to be established in wild populations.~~

OR

- 2) A country where the species listed in Article X.X.X.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the disease for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place met continuously in the country for at least the past 3 years and infection with *Marteilia refringens* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

- 3) A country where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* when:
 - a) it meets *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 3 years; and
 - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the last 2 of the past 3 years² without detection of *Marteilia refringens*.

¹ Infection with *Marteilia refringens* is a seasonal disease that is usually clinically expressed in the 2nd year of infection. Therefore, 3 years of biosecurity measures is the optimal period to enable the detection of cases of infection with *Marteilia refringens* in molluscs.

² Starting the *targeted surveillance* in the 2nd year of the biosecurity measures ensures that new cases of infection with *Marteilia refringens* are more likely to be detected.

OR

4) A country that had declared itself free from *Marteilia refringens* but in which the disease is detected may not declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* again until the following conditions have been met:

a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an infected zone and a buffer zone was established; and

b) a stamping-out policy has been implemented in the infected zone, and the appropriate disinfection procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and

c) targeted surveillance, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the last 2 of the past 3 years without detection of *Marteilia refringens*.

In the meantime, other areas of the remaining territory may be declared one or more free zones, provided that they meet the conditions in point 3) of Article X.X.X.5.

Article X.X.X.5.

***Marteilia refringens* free zone or free compartment**

A *zone* or *compartment* free from *Marteilia refringens* may be established within the *territory* of one or more countries of infected or unknown status for infection with *Marteilia refringens* and declared free by the *Competent Authority(ies)* of the country(ies) concerned, if the *zone* or *compartment* meets the conditions referred to in point 1) or 2) or 3) or 4) below.

If a *zone* or *compartment* extends over more than one country, it can only be declared a *Marteilia refringens* free *zone* or *compartment* if the conditions outlined below apply to all areas of the *zone* or *compartment*.

1) In a country of unknown status for *Marteilia refringens*, a *zone* or *compartment* where none of the species listed in Article X.X.X.2. is present may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 3 years³ and infection is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

2) In a country of unknown status for *Marteilia refringens*, a *zone* or *compartment* where the species listed in Article X.X.X.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the disease for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the

³ Starting the targeted surveillance in the 2nd year of the biosecurity measures ensures that new cases of infection with *Marteilia refringens* are more likely to be detected.

Aquatic Manual, may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 3 years and infection with *Marteilia refringens* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

- 3) A *zone* or *compartment* where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Marteilia refringens* when:
- a) meets *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 3 years; and
 - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the last 2 of the past 3 years⁴ without detection of *Marteilia refringens*.

OR

- 4) A *zone* previously declared free from *Marteilia refringens* but in which the *disease* is detected may not be declared free from *Marteilia refringens* again until the following conditions have been met:
- a) on detection of the *disease*, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
 - b) a *stamping-out policy* has been implemented in the *infected zone*, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
 - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the last 2 of the past 3 years without detection of *Marteilia refringens*.

Article X.X.X.6.

Maintenance of free status

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Marteilia refringens* following the provisions of points 1) or 2) of Articles X.X.X.4. or X.X.X.5., respectively, may maintain its status as *Marteilia refringens* free provided that *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Marteilia refringens* following the provisions of point 3) of Articles X.X.X.4. or X.X.X.5., respectively, may discontinue *targeted surveillance* and maintain its status as *Marteilia refringens* free provided that conditions that are conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Marteilia refringens*, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, exist and *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

⁴ Starting the *targeted surveillance* in the 2nd year of the biosecurity measures ensures that new cases of infection with *Marteilia refringens* are more likely to be detected.

However, for declared free *zones* or *compartment* in infected countries and in all cases where conditions are not conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Marteilia refringens*, *targeted surveillance* needs to be continued at a level determined by the *Competent Authority* on the basis of the likelihood of reinfection.

Article X.X.X.7.

Importation of live animals from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Marteilia refringens*

When importing live *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article X.X.X.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article X.X.X.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Marteilia refringens*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This *certificate* must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles X.X.X.4. or X.X.X.5. (as applicable), whether the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Marteilia refringens*.

The certificate shall be in accordance with Model Certificate No. [X] given in Part 6 of this *Aquatic Code*.

Article X.X.X.8.

Importation of live animals for aquaculture activities from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Marteilia refringens*

When importing for aquaculture activities, *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article X.X.X.2., ~~for aquaculture activities~~, other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article X.X.X.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Marteilia refringens*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply risk mitigation measures such as ~~require that:~~

- 1) the consignment ~~is be~~ delivered directly into and held in ~~approved~~ quarantine ~~secure rearing~~ facilities; and
- 2) the imported *aquatic animals* and their first generation progeny ~~are be~~ continuously isolated from the local environment; and
- 3) all effluent and waste material ~~is be~~ treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Marteilia refringens*.

Article X.X.X.9.

Importation of live animals for processing and/or human consumption from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Marteilia refringens*

When importing ~~for processing and/or human consumption~~, *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article X.X.X.2. ~~for processing and/or human consumption~~, other than those live *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article X.X.X.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Marteilia refringens*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* ~~should assess the risk and apply risk mitigation measures such as require that:~~

- 1) the consignment ~~is be~~ delivered directly to and held in ~~approved~~ *quarantine* ~~secure holding~~ facilities for a short period before processing and/or consumption; and
- 2) all effluent and waste material ~~is be~~ treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Marteilia refringens*.

Article X.X.X.10.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment free from *Marteilia refringens*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the *species* listed in Article X.X.X.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article X.X.X.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from *Marteilia refringens*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that the consignment be accompanied by an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This *certificate* must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles X.X.X.4. or X.X.X.5. (as applicable), whether or not the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Marteilia refringens*.

The *certificate* shall be in accordance with Model Certificate No. [X] given in Part 6 of this *Aquatic Code*.

Article X.X.X.11.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Marteilia refringens*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article X.X.X.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article X.X.X.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Marteilia refringens*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should ~~assess the risk and apply appropriate risk mitigation measures, such as require that:~~

- 1) ~~the consignment is be delivered directly to and held in approved~~ *quarantine* ~~secure storage~~ facilities, and be processed only in approved processing plants, and
- 2) ~~all effluent and waste material is be treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of~~ *Marteilia refringens*.